

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1,
NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT OF
2001

SPEECH OF

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2001

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the conference report. I want to commend Chairman BOEHNER and Ranking Member MILLER for putting together a strong compromise on such an important issue.

This legislation has the potential to dramatically change the public education system in this country. It authorizes significant levels of funding. It says to parents that Congress believes education is a top priority, and that we will make good on our goal—that every child in America should get a quality education.

I am pleased with the changes this bill makes. Changes to the Title I formula will provide a 29-percent increase for New York City schools. For years, the New York City school system has provided an education to tens of thousands of low-income and disadvantaged children, while receiving less than their fair share of Title I funding. This money is especially important as New York City schools recover from the continuing effects of September 11.

This legislation also promises parents that their children will have qualified teachers in the classroom, and that student progress will be closely monitored to ensure that they are on the right track.

I've had the pleasure to work with Chairman RALPH REGULA and Ranking Member DAVID OBEY in crafting the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations bill. They have both worked tirelessly to provide significant increases in education funding this year, and we will vote on the fruits of their labor next week.

But while we will provide these increases this year, the prospects for continuing to provide the resources necessary to continue our efforts on education are dim. The faltering economy, coupled with the increasing impact of the President's tax cut, will make the appropriations process exceedingly difficult in the coming years. We will be forced to make some difficult choices.

This same dilemma will be felt in all fifty states. School districts across the country are being forced to slash their budgets as state revenues have plummeted. If we enforce these new requirements without ensuring that schools have the funding to implement them, our school districts will have to make choices they shouldn't be asked to consider.

I support this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support it as well. I also hope that our support for education does not stop at authorizing funds, but that this vote today is the first step in the process of providing the necessary resources. Our children deserve no less.

H.R. 2187, CLEANUP FUNDS FOR
COLORADO OIL SHALE RESERVE

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2001

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I support this bill, which I have cosponsored with my colleague, the dean of the Colorado delegation, Representative HEFLEY.

H.R. 2187 would enable the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to begin environmental restoration activities at the Naval Oil Shale Reserve 3, near Rifle, Colorado, using existing funds in a special Treasury account.

This account was specifically designated in the Strom Thurmond National Defense Act for Fiscal Year 1998 (Public Law 105-85) which transferred administration of the two Colorado Naval Oil Shale Reserves—Numbered 1 and 3, and known as NOSR 1 & 3—from the Department of Energy to the Department of the Interior for management by BLM.

This provision was added to that act by an amendment offered by Mr. HEFLEY with the assistance and support of my predecessor, Representative David Skaggs. It specifies that receipts from existing mineral leases in NOSR 3 are to be retained in a special account intended for cleanup of contamination caused by previous activities on these lands. However, to avoid Budget Act problems the amendment provided that subsequent legislation would be required to authorize BLM to have access to the funds.

Since enactment of Public Law 105-85, the Interior Department has collected approximately \$8.5 million in lease receipts, which are currently held in the special cleanup account.

Enactment of H.R. 2187 will allow BLM to use up to \$1.5 million of these funds for the preliminary analyses needed before cleanup work can begin and to prepare an estimate of the cost of completing the project. BLM can then begin work, unless the estimated cost of the work would be more than the total in the special account. If the estimate indicates that more would be required than the total in the account, a subsequent authorization will be required before work can begin.

Mr. Speaker, this is important legislation that will allow BLM to begin the process of cleaning up the lands involved and reducing the risks of contaminated runoff reaching the Colorado River. I commend Mr. HEFLEY for introducing the bill and urge its approval by the House.

TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT NGUYEN
VAN THIEU

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2001

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to extend my sincere condolences to the family of former Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu, who died on September 29, 2001. President Thieu played an important role in the history of his country and that of the United States.

Thieu's passing closes a sad chapter in the history of two nations—Vietnam and the

United States. To many Vietnamese in San Jose, Nguyen Van Thieu's name is synonymous with the struggle of the Vietnamese people to live freely without fear of Communist repression. As a founding member of the Congressional Dialogue on Vietnam, I feel it is important that we in the House continue that fight on behalf of those in Vietnam and around the world who are unable to speak, assemble, or worship freely.

Thieu was born April 5, 1923 as the youngest of five children in the poverty-stricken town of Phan Rang in central Ninh Thuan province. He attended the Merchant Marine Academy and the National Military Academy in Dalat, and was commissioned as a 2nd lieutenant in 1949. As an infantry platoon commander in the French campaign against the Viet Minh—the precursor to the Viet Cong—he became regarded as a good strategist and capable leader.

President Thieu passed away with family present in the suburbs of Boston, where he spent the last years of his life. I wish to again extend my condolences to his family and those grieving his loss, and hope that one day the dream he shared of democracy, freedom, and human rights will come to Vietnam.

IN MEMORY OF DOUGLAS
ECCLESTON

HON. DAVE WELDON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2001

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the life and service of Douglas L. Eccleston, a Staff Sergeant with the United States Air Force, who lost his life on December 7, 2001, while performing a rescue mission 1,000 miles off the coast of Florida. His heroic action successfully saved the life of a critically ill sailor.

Mr. Eccleston honorably served his country for 15 years and was a member of the elite Pararescue team assigned to the 920th Rescue Group at Patrick Air Force Base in Satellite Beach, Florida. His service included military action in Operation Just Cause and Operation Desert Storm as a Combat Controller.

During the first part of his career, Doug was a combat controller, an airman who helps direct air strikes from the ground, often in hazardous territory. During the last part of his career, Doug worked to become a Pararescue, also known as a "PJ", an airman who rescues downed aviators anywhere in the world under any conditions.

Mr. Eccleston's military decorations include: Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, Air Force Reserve Meritorious Service Medal, and National Defense Medal.

Doug is survived by his wife, Stacie, his loving parents David and Donna Eccleston and sisters Dana Mohr and Dianna Coulton. Several hundred people attended the memorial service that was conducted at Pelican Beach Park in Satellite Beach, Florida, on December 11, 2001. Funeral services were held in Midland, Texas on December 13, 2001.

Doug will be remembered by those who loved him as a fun loving, caring man. His life's passions included family and surfing. In memory of Doug Eccleston's love of surfing,

six of Eccleston's surfing buddies and fellow airmen paddled out on surfboards into the Atlantic Ocean and cast a wreath on the water. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.

"There's no greater gift than giving your life so that another may live," said Chief Master Sgt. Greg Lowdermilk. "He gave the ultimate sacrifice and we'll always remember him for that. We've lost another great American." We will all miss him. Doug Eccleston is a true hero.

OLYMPIC TORCH BEARER GEORGE
M. MOORE

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2001

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a constituent of mine, Mr. George M. Moore. I have the pleasure of knowing George personally, and I am proud to recognize him. Tonight, George will carry the Olympic torch in Martinsburg, West Virginia.

Although George considers this a once in a lifetime opportunity, it will actually be his second time to run the Olympic torch. Seventeen years ago, George carried the flame for the 1984 Olympic games.

In service to our country, George Moore has sacrificed much. As a United States Air Force fighter pilot, Moore did two tours of duty in Vietnam from 1967 to 1970, when his plane crashed into runway construction. Injuries from this accident put George in a wheelchair. He was only 26 at the time.

Today George Moore is an active member of our West Virginia community. He serves as the director of the Martinsburg Veterans Affairs Medical Center. He is a devoted father and husband. His active life is proof that George has the ability to overcome any challenge or obstacle with which he is faced.

In the Olympic spirit, George has dedicated his stretch with the torch to the victims of the September 11th terrorist attacks. His compassion and determined approach to life is impressive and truly embodies the Olympic spirit.

George Moore is an inspiration to all of his fellow West Virginians. George is extremely deserving of this privilege of carrying the Olympic torch in our home state of West Virginia. I am honored to commend George Moore and I wish him all the best tonight.

HONORING MAYOR HARRIET
MILLER

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2001

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to pay tribute to a woman who is not only an extraordinary citizen of Santa Barbara, California, but has also served the city as Mayor for the last eight years. On December 30, 2001, the City of Santa Barbara will honor Harriet Miller and pay tribute to her for all the wonderful things she has accomplished not only during her tenure as Mayor, but throughout her life.

Harriet Miller grew up in Idaho and attended Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in chemistry. After graduation, she went on to earn a Master of Arts degree in political science from the University of Pennsylvania, and later received an Honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters from Whitman College.

Education has always been a driving force in Harriet's life. From 1950–1955 she served as an Associate Professor and Associate Dean of Students at the University of Montana. She was then elected as the Superintendent of Public Instruction for the State of Montana in 1956, and additionally served the state as a member of the Board of Land Commissioners, the Library Commission, the Teachers Retirement Board and the Board of Education, in addition to being an ex officio Regent of the Montana University system.

In 1969 Harriet first moved to Santa Barbara and started HMA, a management consulting company. Yet after seven years of serving as president of the company, Harriet relocated to Washington, D.C. and over the next several years served as Executive Director of the American Association of Retired Person, the National Retired Teachers Association and the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission. She then returned to Santa Barbara and was appointed to Santa Barbara City Council in 1987, was elected during the same year, and was reelected as a City Council member in 1992.

In January, 1995, Harriet was appointed as Mayor, and then went on to become elected as Mayor in November of 1995. She was then reelected in 1997. During her tenure, Harriet Miller served the City in many ways, including serving as either a chair, active member, or on the Board of Directors for countless agencies.

Throughout the years, Harriet Miller has been a pleasure to work with and after stepping down from office she will surely be missed. The City of Santa Barbara has been fortunate to have such a distinguished woman as Harriet as Mayor, and the City will never forget all her wonderful achievements. I would like to thank Harriet today for her dedication to Santa Barbara, and wish her the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
AND DISTINGUISHED LIFE OF
EIGHTH CIRCUIT COURT OF AP-
PEALS SENIOR JUDGE FLOYD R.
GIBSON

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2001

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Floyd R. Gibson, Senior Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit who died Thursday, October 4, 2001. Judge Gibson was a stalwart for justice and his professional career exemplifies his unwavering dedication to public service. His tenure in the Missouri State Legislature and his 34 years on the Eighth Circuit, created a legacy of commitment to Justice and the common good.

Judge Gibson was born in the Arizona Territory in 1910. He moved to Kansas City at age 4 and graduated from Northeast High School.

From Northeast, he went on to attend the University of Missouri, where he received his bachelors degree in 1931 and his law degree in 1933. In 1935, he wed his wife, Gertrude. Floyd and his lovely wife have raised three successful and talented children, Charles, John, and Catherine, while demonstrating a distinguished career in public policy and the law. Judge Gibson entered private law practice in the Kansas City area, where he rose to become a named partner in three firms. While in private practice, Judge Gibson was elected County Counselor for Jackson County.

He later turned his efforts to state government where he served 21 years in both the House and Senate of the Missouri General Assembly. He believed "politics is the handmaiden of the law and should be actively pursued by members of the legal profession as an avocation." The Judge distinguished himself in the Missouri Senate as Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, Majority Floor Leader, and in his final term as President Pro Tem of the Senate. His success did not go unnoticed—in 1960 the 'St. Louis Globe Democrat' newspaper named Floyd Gibson the Most Valuable Member of the Missouri State Legislature.

With such credentials, President John F. Kennedy nominated him in 1961 to become a U.S. District Judge for the Western District of Missouri. Judge Gibson was named to the position of Chief Judge one year to the day of his September 1961 appointment. In June of 1965 President Johnson appointed Judge Gibson to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. He served as Eighth Circuit Chief Judge from 1974 to 1980 when he assumed senior status. As a dedicated public servant, he continued to serve the Bench actively until June of 2000.

Judge Gibson has received numerous awards and honors. He received the University of Missouri Faculty-Alumni Award. He was named Phi Kappa Psi Man of the Year. The Missouri Bar Foundation honored Judge Gibson with the Spurgeon Smithson Award. He was an Honorary Member of the Order of Coif. He received the Kansas City Bar Association Annual Achievement Award and was a recipient of the Lawyers Association's Charles Evans Wittaker Award. A member of the Missouri, Kansas City, Federal, and American Bar Associations, Judge Gibson has distinguished himself through his legal work.

Judge Gibson's service to his community included the Chairmanship of Manufacturers Mechanics Bank and Blue Valley Federal Savings & Loan. He had an intense interest in agriculture and was a member of the Gibson Family Limited Partnership, which owns the Lone Summit Ranch and other farm ground in Jackson County, Missouri. Judge Gibson also gave back to the Kansas City community through his service on the Board of Trustees for the University of Missouri-Kansas City and as an Advisory Director to the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation. He was recently recognized as one of the top living contributors to the University Missouri-Columbia Law School.

Judge Gibson's life is celebrated by a host of loving family, friends, and colleagues who mourn his loss. Mr. Speaker, please join me in expressing our heartfelt sympathy to his devoted wife of 66 years, Gertrude, his sons, John and Charles, his daughter, Catherine, his daughters-in-law, Judy and Bonnie, his beloved grandchildren, Heather Allen, Jennifer